



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

July 11, 2007

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, President
and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Madam President and Members of the Senate:

Re: Senate Bill No. 688 SD2 HD1 CD1

On July 10, 2007, Senate Bill No. 688, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Education" became law without my signature, pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the State Constitution.

The bill appropriates \$100,000 in general funds over fiscal biennium 2007-2009, for the P-20 Initiative. This Initiative is tasked with creating a continuum of education from early learning to adulthood.

Although the intent of the P-20 Initiative is laudable, I question the need for State funding of this project.

In April 2007, the P-20 Initiative received a \$10 million grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to support the Initiative's goal of having every third grader in Hawaii reading at grade level by 2015. This \$10 million provides substantial private investment for the Initiative.

This year there were programs of priority that did not receive adequate State general funds. Since the P-20 Initiative received a large private award, the \$100,000 in State funds could be used for other worthwhile programs.

For the foregoing reason, I allowed Senate Bill No. 688 to become law as Act 281, effective July 10, 2007, without my signature.

Sincerely,

LINDA LINGLE